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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 1, 2002**

For Information Contact Public Affairs  
Mike Johns (602) 514-7566

# **PHOENIX MAN CONVICTED OF CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE AND DISTRIBUTION OF 10 POUNDS OF METHAMPHETAMINE.**

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced today that Anthony Morales Garza, 28, of Gilbert, Arizona, was found guilty of Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine and Distribution of Methamphetamine, by a federal jury at Tucson, Arizona.

The evidence at trial showed the Defendant conspired with Jose S. Gonzales, 34, of Guadalupe, Arizona to Distribute at least 10 pounds of methamphetamine to an undercover agent with DEA. Among other things, Jose S. Gonzales, negotiated a transaction with the undercover agent for 20 pounds of methamphetamine to be delivered to Tucson from Phoenix on October 12, 2000. When Gonzales met the undercover agent on October 12, 2000, he indicated that his source of the methamphetamine would be in one the vehicles involved in transporting the methamphetamine from Phoenix; that his source did not want to meet the undercover agent or be directly involved in the transaction; and, was being cautious about the manner of delivery. Gonzales further indicated that his source owned a carpet shop in Phoenix. Prior to the transaction taking place, the Defendant arrived driving a vehicle where 10.53 pounds of methamphetamine was later found. The Defendant made contact with Gonzales prior to the transaction taking place but did not directly take part in the transaction. At the time of the offense, the Defendant owned Aardvark Carpet in Phoenix.

(MORE)

Jose S. Gonzales, previously pled guilty to Conspiracy to Distribute and Distribution of Methamphetamine and is currently serving 10 years in the Bureau of Prisons.

Anthony Garza, had been charged with violating Title 21, of the United States Code, Sections 846 and 841(a)(1). The case was tried before United States District Court Judge Raner C. Collins on January 28 through February 1, 2002.

A conviction for Conspiracy to Distribute Methamphetamine and Distribution of Methamphetamine carries a maximum penalty of 10 years to life imprisonment, a \$4 million fine or both.

The investigation leading to the guilty verdict was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

Sentencing is set before Judge Raner C. Collins on April 12, 2002.

The prosecution is being handled by Lynnette C. Kimmins, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-00-1452 TUC-RCC  
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